Amendments to the Claims:

The following Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) An article comprising an electrochemical sensor strip having circuits comprising electrodes in an electrode region connected to contact pads in a contact region by conductive traces wherein the electrode region is off-set from the contact region in both an x direction parallel to the length of the sensor strip and a y direction parallel to the width of the sensor strip, wherein the electrode region and contact region are off-set such that they form an L shape, the interior of which shape forms an edge of the sensor strip and wherein the electrode region protrudes beyond the contact region in the x direction.
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Cancelled)
5. (Original) The article of claim 1 wherein the circuits are located in an active portion and the article further comprises an inactive portion.
6. (Original) The article of claim 5 wherein the inactive portion comprises a handling tab.
7. (Original) The article of claim 6 wherein the handling tab is bent at one or both ends.
8. (Original) The article of claim 6 wherein the handling tab is textured.
9. (Original) The article of claim 5 wherein the active portion is about 3 mm to about 10 mm wide and about 5 mm to about 25 mm long.
10. (Currently Amended) An article comprising an electrochemical sensor strip comprising
    a backing material,
    an active portion laminated to a portion of the backing material,
    the active portion comprising
    a substrate,
    a circuit comprising electrodes in an electrode region connected to contact pads in a contact region by conductive traces wherein the electrode region is off-set from the contact region in both an x direction parallel to the length of the sensor strip

and a y direction parallel to the width of the sensor strip, wherein the electrode region and contact region are off-set such that they form an L shape, the interior of which shape forms an edge of the sensor strip and wherein the electrode region protrudes beyond the contact region in the x direction, and

a polymeric layer comprising a channel-forming material over the electrodes, and

a hydrophilic layer over the channel-forming material.

11. (Original) The article of claim 10 wherein a reagent layer is applied on the electrodes.

12. (Original) The article of claim 1 further comprising a fluid-wicking channel that extends across the length of the electrode region and wherein the length of the electrode region is less than one-half of the width of the circuit.

13. (Original) The article of claim 12 wherein the fluid-wicking channel terminates at one end with a fluid sample entrance, wherein the fluid sample entrance traverses the end of the fluid-wicking channel at an angle of less than 90.

14. (Original) The article of claim13 wherein the angle is 45.

15. (Original) The article of claim 14 wherein the fluid sample entrance is 1.4 times an entrance that intersects the fluid-wicking channel at an angle of 90.

16. (Original) The article of claim 12 wherein the fluid-wicking channel is open to the atmosphere at both ends.

17. (Original) The article of claim 12 wherein the fluid-wicking channel transports fluid to the electrodes by capillary action.

18. (Original) The article of claim 12 wherein the fluid-wicking channel has a volume of less than about one microliter.

19. (Original) The article of claim 1 wherein the sensor strip is a blood glucose sensor strip.

20. (Original) An article comprising a blood glucose test kit comprising the electrochemical sensor strip of claim 19 and a glucose measuring device having a slot that receives the sensor strip article wherein when the sensor strip is fully inserted into the slot the electrode region of the sensor remains outside of the slot.